

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/683,990	JABRI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Irakli Kiknadze	2882	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Applicant Argument dated June 3, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,5,7,8 and 10-25.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 May 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

IK

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 2 and 3, filed June 3, 2004, with respect to claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10-25 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10-25 have been withdrawn.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10-25 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-22, 24 and 25 are allowed because prior art fails to teach or make obvious a method of processing dual energy images, a method of examining a structure, a dual energy system and a computer program product for processing dual energy images that comprises a structure for or steps of: pre-processing a first and a second image including performing detector corrections on the first and second images; post-processing a raw soft-tissue image to form a processed soft-tissue image including performing noise reduction on the raw soft-tissue image and post-processing a raw bone image to form a processed bone image including performing noise reduction on the raw bone image as claimed in claims 1, 15, 24 and 25. Claims 4,5,7,8,10-14 and 16-22 are allowed by virtue of their dependence.

Claim 23 is allowed because prior art fails to teach or make obvious a dual energy imaging system comprising a processing circuit for: pre-processing a first and a second image including performing detector corrections on the first and second images; post-processing the first image to form a processed first image including performing noise reduction on the first image and post-processing the second image to form a second image including performing noise reduction on the second image as claimed in claim 23.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kawara et al. (US Patent 5,020,085) and Siffert et al. (US Patent 6,570,955 B1) teach the dual energy imaging methods and systems.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Irakli Kiknadze whose telephone number is 571-272-2493. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00- 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on 571-272-2490. The fax


Art Unit: 2882

phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Irakli Kiknadze  
June 22, 2004

IK

  
EDWARD J. GLICK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER